

Message Text

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TAGS: MASS, PCAT, SP
SUBJ: SPANISH ARMS PROCUREMENT POLICY - SENATE DEFENSE
COMMITTEE SEEKS BENEFITS FOR SPANISH INDUSTRY

1. DURING HEARINGS ON OTHER MATTERS WHICH BROUGHT FIRST VICE PRESIDENT AND DEFENSE MINISTER GUTIERREZ MELLADO TO THE CHAMBERS OF THE DEFENSE COMMITTEE OF THE SPANISH SENATE ON JUNE 27, THAT COMMITTEE APPROVED AN "ACUERDO" (ROUGHLY TRANSLATABLE AS A "SENSE OF THE COMMITTEE RESOLUTION") SUBMITTED BY THE CHAIR WHICH UNDERLINES THE VIEW THAT FUTURE SPANISH DEFENSE PROCUREMENT FROM ABROAD SHOULD ENTAIL GREATER BENEFITS FOR SPANISH DEFENSE INDUSTRY, IMPORTANT SECTORS OF WHICH ARE SERIOUSLY DEPRESSED.

2. SINCE THIS RESOLUTION REFLECTS GOS POLICY AND FORMS PART OF THE GENERAL BACKGROUND FOR GUTIERREZ MELLADO'S COMING VISIT TO WASHINGTON, THE TEXT IS RECORDED BELOW IN ITS ENTIRETY (INFORMAL TRANSLATION):

3. QUOTE: THE DEFENSE COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE, RECOGNIZING THAT THERE IS A NEED TO STRENGTHEN NATIONAL DEFENSE INDUSTRY AS AN INDISPENSABLE UNDERPINNING FOR DEFENSE AND
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WHEREAS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE GENERAL POLICY TO BE ESTABLISHED TO BRING TO BEAR THE ECONOMIC RESOURCES WHICH CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE BY THE STATE FOR SUCH PURPOSES THERE EXIST AT PRESENT DIFFICULTIES WHICH DERIVE FROM THE LACK OF BUSINESS AND CONSEQUENT UNEMPLOYMENT NOW BEING SUFFERED BY THE COUNTRY, AND WHICH PLACE IN IMMINENT DANGER AN AREA OF ACTIVITY WHICH TODAY INVOLVES IMPORTANT TECHNOLOGICAL

ASSETS;

4. GIVEN THE NEEDS WHICH OUR ARMED FORCES HAVE FOR MODERN DEFENSE MATERIEL WHICH THEY ARE OBLIGATED TO ACQUIRE ABROAD, AND WHICH CONSTITUTES AN IMPORTANT MARKET FOR POTENTIAL SUPPLIERS;

5. SUGGESTS TO THE GOVERNMENT, THROUGH HIS EXCELLENCY THE FIRST VICE PRESIDENT AND MINISTER OF DEFENSE, THAT THE NECESSARY MEANS BE FOUND TO: (1) GIVE TOTAL PRIORITY TO NATIONAL INDUSTRY; (2) DEVELOP, WHENEVER NECESSARY, PRODUCTION SYSTEMS UNDER LICENSE OR THROUGH JOINT VENTURES; (3) TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE GIVEN DEGREE OF INDEPENDENCE AND THE RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SEVERAL MILITARY SERVICES FOR THE SELECTION OF THE TYPE AND THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MATERIEL MOST APPROPRIATE FOR ACQUISITION, OBTAIN FROM THIS MARKET WHICH OUR COUNTRY MAKES AVAILABLE TO FOREIGN SUPPLIERS WHATEVER CORRESPONDING INDUSTRIAL COMPENSATION MAY BE POSSIBLE, NOT ONLY TO IMPROVE THE TECHNOLOGICAL LEVEL OF OUR INDUSTRY BUT ALSO TO MAINTAIN AND INCREASE INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT.

6. AT THE SAME TIME, IT IS SUGGESTED THAT, AS A COMPLEMENT TO WHAT HAS BEEN CITED PREVIOUSLY, CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO PROMULGATING LEGAL MEASURES SIMILAR TO THOSE EXISTING IN OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH REQUIRE THAT PURCHASES

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ABROAD OF DEFENSE MATERIEL PROVIDE TO NATIONAL DEFENSE INDUSTRY BENEFITS EQUALING A CERTAIN PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL VALUE OF SUCH ACQUISITIONS. UNQUOTE. EATON

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